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S E C R E T MUSCAT 000631

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SUBJECT: EMBASSY MUSCAT EAC - 04/16/2005

REF: MUSCAT 0620

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires, a.i. William R. Stewart.
Reason: 1.4(c).

Summary

11. (SBU) The CDA chaired a meeting of the Emergency Action Committee (EAC) April 16 to review the Embassy's security posture following the local weekend. Members noted no substantive changes in the local security environment since the last meeting. Accordingly, the EAC agreed that the Embassy's already heightened security posture and FPCON remain appropriate. End Summary.

Security Situation

12. (SBU) On April 16, the CDA chaired a meeting of the EAC to review the Embassy's security posture following the local weekend. The meeting opened with a discussion of the local security situation, which the EAC continued to characterize as stable. Members noted no/no new threat reporting specific to Oman. Likewise, the EAC cited no security incidents among their staffs or family members over the weekend, with no reported security incidents or security-related queries from the private American citizen community.

Warden Meeting

13. (SBU) CDA briefed the EAC on the highlights of the April 11 warden meeting hosted by the Embassy's Consular section. CDA, CONS, and RSO staff attended the meeting which addressed the current security environment, Warden Messages, Public Announcements and Travel Warnings, and internet-based registration system for American citizens.

Upcoming Events

14. (SBU) The EAC reviewed upcoming events, to include joint visits by the USS Firebolt and USS Typhoon to Port Sultan Qaboos, from April 18-20. Security for the ship visits is being coordinated with the Royal Oman Police Coast Guard.

Sustained Vigilance

15. (SBU) Prior to concluding the meeting, RSO reiterated that, despite the relative calm, members of the EAC must continue reinforcing to both their staffs and family members the need for vigilance regarding all aspects of personal security - to include maintaining a low profile and remaining unpredictable. RSO further re-emphasized the importance of immediately reporting all suspicious activity or security-related incidents to Post One.

Conclusion

16. (S/NF) The EAC concluded that there have been no substantive changes in previously reported assessments of the local security environment since the last meeting held on April 13 (reftel). Accordingly, members agreed that the Embassy's already heightened security posture and FPCON remain appropriate. Embassy Muscat remains acutely aware of the need to monitor both the regional and local security and threat environments, and is prepared to take the necessary countermeasures should changes to either occur. CDA, MGT, P/E, PAO, RSO, ARSO, CONS, RMAS, OMC (USDR), DAO, and ECA (USCENTAF) participated in the meeting.
STEWART